

REMARKS

Claims 29 stands objected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. In response, Applicants canceled claim 29. Accordingly, the rejection is now moot.

Claims 23, 28-29, 31-32, and 34 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Kurauchi et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,323,921). In response, Applicants amended independent claim 23 to clarify that the liquid crystal display is configured to enclose liquid crystal, and has a columnar spacer that includes a resin color filter layer and a resin layer made of photosensitive acrylic resin configured to be in contact with liquid crystal. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection based on this amendment.

Kurauchi is directed to a color filter substrate and liquid crystal display device. As shown in FIG. 2, Kurauchi has a blue colored layer 8c adjacent a red colored layer 6c. A green colored layer 7c is sandwiched between the red colored layer 6c and a blue colored layer 8d. Kurauchi further includes a light-shielding film 4 surrounded by the blue colored layer 8c. Kurauchi fails to disclose or suggest a columnar spacer formed with laminated resin layers that includes a resin color filter layer and a resin layer made of photosensitive acrylic resin, wherein the photosensitive acrylic resin layer is configured to be in contact with a liquid crystal of the liquid crystal display.

In contrast, as shown in FIG. 24 of the present application, liquid crystal LC is in contact with a resin layer of photosensitive acrylic resin 60 which is stacked on a red resin color filter layer and a green resin color filter layer to form a columnar spacer

30. Since Kurauchi fails to disclose or suggest a columnar spacer including a resin layer of photosensitive acrylic resin in contact with a liquid crystal, withdrawal of the §102(e) rejection of claims 23, 28-29, 31-32, and 34 is respectfully requested.

Claims 25-27 and 33 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kurauchi and further in view of Kadota et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,818,550) or Kurematsu et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,764,318). In response, Applicants traverse the rejection for the reasons recited above with respect to the rejection of independent claim 23.

Since claims 25-27 and 33 ultimately depend upon claim 23, and necessarily include all the features of their associated independent claim plus other additional features. Thus, Applicants submit that the §103(a) rejection of these claims has also been overcome for the same reasons mentioned above to overcome the rejection of independent claim 23, and also because Kadota and Kurematsu fail to overcome the deficiencies of Kurauchi.

Kadota is merely cited for the second substrate being thinner than the first substrate. Kurauchi is merely cited for the common substrate being formed of an alkaline glass. Applicants respectfully request that the §103(a) rejection of claims 25-27 and 33 also be withdrawn.

New claim 35 is added and further defines the resin layer and a photosensitive acrylic resin as having a width that is approximately equal to a width of the resin color filter layer. Applicants earnestly solicit allowance of new claim 35 based


on the features recited in the claim, and also for the reasons recited above with respect to the rejection of independent claim 23.

For all of the foregoing reasons, Applicants submit that this Application is in condition for allowance, which is respectfully requested. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney if an interview would expedite prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,

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